

From: Josie Casey-Witte
Sent: Saturday, June 06, 2015 6:42 PM
To: KEELING Ryan W * DCBS
Subject: Dismay from a mental health provider

To Whom it May Concern,

As a healthcare provider and a licensed marriage and family therapist, I am deeply committed to serving families and children with limited resources. I have been astonished and dismayed by the distinct erosion over the past 5 years of the quality of mental health care services offered to our community.

I was born and raised in the Eugene area and consider working with OHP clients to be a rewarding, revitalizing population to serve. When Obamacare emerged, I was hopeful that services would improve for this population who is already struggling with grinding poverty, cycles of abuse, and systemic oppression. Instead, it worsened, became more onerous to use, and now this shift to for-profit corporations taking over the reigns of care is terrifying. The reality that CEOs are profiting to the tune of millions of dollars while the mental health of this already-marginalized population declines is not only unjust, it will cost our community in the end--in crime, in intimate family violence, in cycles of abuse and trauma. It is deeply unfair to both those who are being restricted in accessing care and healing and to all the people of this community.

I would like to voice my deep disapproval of the sale of Trillium to Centene. If there is anything I can do to further advocate for this to be stopped, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

~Josephine Witte, M.Ed, LMFT